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FEB 09 2007

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A base deck comprising a platform portion supporting an over-mold portion, the over-mold portion comprising ~~at least one~~ a rigid structural component comprising a first polymer and a plurality of concurrently formed elastomeric components each comprising a distinct second polymer, wherein a first elastomeric component of said plurality contactingly engages the platform portion and a second elastomeric component of said plurality contactingly engages the rigid structural component apart from the platform portion.

2. (Original) The base deck of claim 1, in which the platform portion includes an over-mold host region, wherein the over-mold portion encases the over-mold host region to encapsulate the over-mold host region.

3. (Original) The base deck of claim 1, in which the platform portion comprises:
a first centrally located depression enclosing a motor mount aperture, the motor
mount aperture for mounting a motor;
a second peripheral located depression adjacent the first centrally located depression
confining an actuator mount aperture, the actuator mount aperture for
mounting an actuator;

a disc relief region adjacent the first centrally located depression, the disc relief region accommodates rotation of a disc;
a voice coil relief region adjacent the second peripheral located depression, the voice coil relief region accommodates rotation of an actuator; and
a recirculation filter reception region adjacent the first centrally located depression.

4. (Original) The base deck of claim 1, in which the over-mold portion comprises:
a rigid base deck side wall with an external surface and an internal surface, the rigid base deck side wall over-molded on the platform portion;
an alignment guide formed in the rigid base deck side wall, the alignment guide confined by the external surface;
a filter retention finger adjacent the internal surface and supported by a recirculation filter reception region of the platform portion; and
a ramp load/unload formed on the internal surface of the rigid base deck side wall.

5. (Original) The base deck of claim 4, in which the platform portion includes an over-mold host region, wherein the over-mold portion encases the over-mold host region to encapsulate the over-mold host region.

6. (Original) The base deck of claim 3, in which the over-mold portion comprises:
a rigid base deck side wall with an external surface, an internal surface and a top surface, the rigid base deck side wall over-molded on the platform portion;

an alignment guide formed in the rigid base deck side wall, the alignment guide
confined by the external surface;
a filter retention finger adjacent the internal surface and supported by a recirculation
filter reception region of the platform portion; and
a ramp load/unload formed on the internal surface of the rigid base deck side wall.

7. (Original) The base deck of claim 6, in which the over-mold portion further
comprises:

a top cover gasket supported by the top surface;
a motor gasket supported by the first centrally located depression and adjacent the
motor mount aperture;
an actuator gasket supported by the second peripheral located depression and
adjacent the actuator mount aperture; and
an impact dissipation member communicating with the top surface as well as the
external surface of the rigid base deck side wall.

8. (Original) The base deck of claim 7, in which the impact dissipation member
provides the alignment guide.

9. (Original) The base deck of claim 8, in which the impact dissipation member, the
actuator gasket, the motor gasket and the top cover gasket are formed from an epoxidized
elastomer.

10. (Original) The base deck of claim 8, in which the ramp load/unload, the filter retention finger and the rigid base deck side wall are formed from a thermo-set plastic.

Claims 11-24 (Cancelled).

25. (Currently amended) A base deck comprising a platform portion supporting an over-mold portion, the over-mold portion comprising ~~at least one~~ a rigid structural component and a plurality of concurrently formed elastomeric components, the base deck formed by a process comprising a step of concurrently over-molding the platform portion with a first polymer to form the ~~at least one~~ rigid structural component and a distinct second polymer to form the plurality of elastomeric components, wherein a first elastomeric component of said plurality contactingly engages the platform portion apart from the rigid structural component, and wherein a second elastomeric component of said plurality contactingly engages the rigid structural component apart from the platform portion.

26. (Previously presented) The base deck of claim 25, in which the platform portion includes an over-mold host region, wherein the over-mold portion encases the over-mold host region to encapsulate the over-mold host region.

27. (Previously presented) The base deck of claim 25, in which the platform portion is a metallic substrate formed by a fine blanking process, the first polymer is a thermo-set plastic, and the second polymer is an epoxidized elastomer.

28. (New) The base deck of claim 1, wherein the first elastomeric component contactingly engages the platform portion without contactingly engaging the rigid structural component.

29. (New) The base deck of claim 1, wherein the platform comprises an annular aperture extending therethrough, and wherein the first elastomeric component is proximate to and surrounds the annular aperture.

30. (New) The base deck of claim 29, wherein the first elastomeric component seals a rotatable member supported thereon.

31. (New) The base deck of claim 1, wherein the rigid structural component is disposed between the platform portion and the second elastomeric component.

32. (New) The base deck of claim 31, wherein the second elastomeric component is characterized as an impact dissipation member.